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Essential Belief Statement

EDU 221/ Spring 2016

Dr. Grace

I had an interesting path growing up and learned that not everything is easy and sometimes you are dealt cards that aren't the greatest, but you have to work with them anyways. I was adopted at a very young age and my mom was a teacher which I think is where it all started. From there I really just started enjoying my classes more and more, but in fifth grade it all changed when I had one of my first male teachers. Not only did we love the same football team, but the way he connected with me and my peers was like nothing else. His name was Mr. Roach, he was always there for us when we needed help, had an issue or just wanted to relax. He genuinely cared and we all looked up to him. I guess I just want to be there for my students the way he was there for us.

When I was in 8th grade I had a social studies teacher that always pushed me. One day I was feeling lazy and tried to take the easy way out of an assignment. She later pulled me out of another class and told me I was very bright and needed to start seeing what others saw, she told me the easy way wasn't always the right way and that I was good at taking in and then explaining the material to my peers and thinking of things outside of the box. She told me I had the leadership skills to not only be good but to be great and that felt good to know. I had always been interested in history classes where my friends thought it was boring, I found it interesting and I always tried to think of how I could make it interesting for myself, friends and future students.

I think that one of the ways I learn may end up making me reach out even more. I am a beachball and like we learned in class clipboards like structure and the beachball style doesn't always have a set structure. I think that I can benefit positively from what my learning style is and try to make it work for all of my students instead of what is best for me and the same style of learners. I think as a teacher I am going to try to make my kids get outside of their comfort zones though, so I am probably going to try to incorporate many different learning styles in many different ways. I think that I can engage students keep their interest through being fun and giving them an education.

As a teacher my biggest fear would be having to break up a fight. As a substitute I had to break up a fight and I had to restrain a kid and I thought I was going to lose my job for physically touching a kid, so I would like to learn how to handle conflicts like that.

I hope to come out of this class with the ability to mold the minds of my students. I have had some really bad teachers in my life and I don't want to be a teacher like that. I want to be able to influence kids and make them want to come to school and give their best while I challenge them to be not only great students, but great people as well. I want to be able to have student come to me with problems in the classroom and know that I can be there for them with other problems as well. I know this class is supposed to prepare us to be teachers and I believe that being a role model and support system is a big part of being a teacher also.